With 24 other countries, proposals for signing the Extradition Treaties are at various stages of consideration/negotiation.

(c) Does not arise.

Resumption of dialogue with Pakistan

2666. DR.KARANSINGH:
SHRI CM. IBRAHIM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a joint press conference addressed by Pak-President and the visiting German Chancellor in Islamabad on October 28,2001, in which they made a direct appeal to India for resumption of dialogue with Pakistan on the format agreed upon at Agra Summit;

(b) if so, Government's response there to; and

(c) whether the Agra-talks were resumed in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in early November, 2001.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have seen reports of the Joint Press Conference addressed by President Musharraf and German Chancellor Shroeder in Islamabad on 28-11-2001.

The State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan. Under the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, India and Pakistan are committed to resolving all issues peacefully through direct bilateral approaches. There is no question of the involvement of any third party whatsoever. Government have on numerous occasions reiteratred their commitment to resume the Composite Dialogue and pick up the threads of Lahore. This desire was clearly manifested in Prime Minister's invitation to President Musharraf for summit level talks, which were held at Agra in July this year. Pakistan must end its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India so that a conducive environment is created for a productive dialogue.

(c) No meeting was held between Prime Minister and the Pakistan President on the sidelines of the UNGA meeting at New York this November.